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YOUNG, E. H. *Foreign companies and other corporations.* (London: Camb. Univ. Press. Pp. 344. 12s.)

_____. *Company laws. Comparative analysis of the company laws of the United Kingdom, India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.* (London: King. 5d.)

_____. *Die deutsche Kali-Industrie und das Kaligesetz. Eine volkswirtschaftliche Studie.* (Hannover: Hahn. 1911. Pp. viii, 152. 5.40 m.)

Labor and Labor Organizations

The History and Problems of Organized Labor. By FRANK TRACY CARLTON. (Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. 1911. Pp. xi, 483. \$2.00.)

Professor Carlton has given us a useful textbook in a field in which Adams and Sumner's *Labor Problems* has heretofore stood alone in excellence. He has held firmly to his purpose and has not yielded to the temptation—a very real one—of giving undue space to topics toward which his own research has been especially directed. The title is somewhat misleading, for the book treats of many problems that are the concern not merely of organized labor, but of all labor; and the historical discussion deals not with the general subject of organized labor, but with organized labor in the United States. Since the preface makes clear the purpose of the work, the mere name is not highly important.

The scope of the book may be shown by an enumeration of its chapter headings: the significance of organized labor; the pre-Civil War period; the Civil War period, 1857-1872; the period of national organization; government and policies of labor organizations; coercive methods; industrial remuneration; methods of promoting industrial peace; protective legislation for employees; immigration; the sweated industries; child labor; women labor; prison labor; unemployment; industrial and trade education; recent tendencies.

The chapter on The Significance of Organized Labor contains a good analysis of present industrial problems and of the relation of labor to these problems. There is lacking, however, a discussion of the various stages through which labor has passed, such as slavery, serfdom, the gild system, and the different stages of the domestic system. The undergraduate student is usually wanting in background and perspective, and it is not safe, in the prepara-

tion of a textbook, to assume that the student has been trained in economic history. In the latter part of this chapter, Mr. Carlton makes good use of Mr. Hoxie's excellent articles on the point of view of the trade-unionist.

In the four chapters on the history of American trade-unions, Mr. Carlton has given us the best general sketch of the American labor movement that is in existence. The great value of the *Documentary History of American Industrial Society* is made manifest by frequent citations from that scholarly work. Chief emphasis is given to the development of what, for want of a better name, may be called national federations, and a little space is given to the history of national organizations of individual trades. There may well be regret that more attention could not have been accorded the national unions, or, at least, to some of the representative ones. It is true, however, that we have few intensive studies of national unions on which to base generalizations. The section given to the history of the American Federation of Labor is occupied in part with an analysis of the government and policies of the Federation; this analysis could more properly have been placed in the chapter dealing with these topics. The author takes a somewhat gloomy view of the present position of the American Federation, and places emphasis upon the loss of membership in 1909. Can it be said that this loss was due to powerful associations of employers and to adverse court decisions? May not industrial depression, causing arrears in membership dues, explain in large part the decrease in membership? The years 1910 and 1911 witnessed large increases in membership, more than recovering the loss of 1909 and bring the present enrolment much above the previous maximum, that of 1904. The book gives small space to women's trade-unions, explained by the fact that until the recent publication of the study by Messrs. Andrews and Bliss very little was accurately known about this important phase of the American labor movement.

The section on employers' associations is not the most valuable in the book. This and other sections seem to indicate that Mr. Carlton is of the opinion that the chief purpose of employers' associations is to crush labor organizations. It is doubtful if this can be proved. Mr. Hilbert in his study of employers' associations (*Johns Hopkins Studies*) is of the opinion that militant associations are ephemeral in character and likely to pass away with the

occasions that called them into being, while the typical employers' associations will continue to exist as a basis for collective bargaining with the workers.

The chapter on the government and policies of labor organizations is the best and longest in the book; it gives ample evidence of the author's command of his subject and how well he has succeeded in compressing into small space the essential features of the government and practices of labor organizations. Mr. Carlton makes no apology for violence on the part of unionists in strikes. He does, however, give much attention to violence on the part of employers; and there is danger of the student's coming to the conclusion, that since these methods are used by employers, labor is justified in meeting force with force. It should be made clear that the public will not tolerate violence on the part of employees or of employers, and that the present attitude of both parties is, in most cases, absolutely unethical. The section on the attitude of the courts to boycotts and strikes is not clear, but it is, perhaps, as clear as a muddled subject will allow. It has not been made clearer by Martin, Cooke, nor Clark. Perhaps the impression left upon the student of a maze of conflicting rulings will, after all, be the most correct impression.

An excellent feature of the book is the discussion of labor policies in the light of economic theory. This is very helpful, for undergraduate students in their later studies are prone to forget their previous readings in economic principles. One or two modifications are suggested: The statement is made (p. 166) that a monopoly "may grant higher wages and make the concession an excellent excuse for permanently raising the price of its products." Even though the wages be raised, the price of the products would not be increased unless this increased price gave the highest net profit. On page 6 occurs the statement: "In a broader sense, real wages include not only the goods and services secured with money wages, but also the services rendered the individual by the community"; even if this view of wages were accepted, the direct and indirect taxes paid by the individual would have to be subtracted to get the net value to the individual of the services rendered him by the community.

Notwithstanding the foregoing questions of qualification which have been raised, the work undoubtedly will be accepted as an important addition to the literature of its field.

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